REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 23-25, 27 and 28 are amended. Support for amendments to claims 1, 2, 27 and 28 can be found at least in the instant specification at paragraph [0017]. Claims 23-25 are amended for form. Thus, no new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Worku at the interview held on November 28, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

I. October 16, 2007 Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on October 16, 2007. Applicants have not yet received from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.

II. §101 Rejection of Claims 23-25

Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. By this Amendment, claims 23-25 are amended according to the Office Action's suggestion. As agreed during the personal interview, claims 23-25 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

III. §112 Rejection of Claims 1-28

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 27 and 28 are amended. As agreed during the personal interview, claims 1, 2, 27 and 28 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Further, claims 3-26 are rejected merely because they depend from independent claim 2. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

IV. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

A. §102(e) Rejection of Claims 1-28 Over Parulski

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,121,229 to Parulski et al. ("Parulski"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, Parulski does not teach or suggest every feature of claims 1-28. Parulski does not disclose an image capturing device that includes "an access information associating device to associate access information indicating an acquisition site of the image processing data with the image data received by the image receiving device," as recited in independent claim 1 (emphasis added). Further, Parulski does not disclose an image capturing device that includes "an access information memory device to store access information indicating an acquisition site of the image processing data, and an access information associating device to associate the access information in the access information memory device with the image data received by the image receiving device," as recited in independent claim 2 (emphasis added). Finally, Parulski does not disclose "storing and associating access information indicating an acquisition site of the image processing data with the image data received in the image receiving in an access information memory device," as recited in independent claim 28, and as similarly recited in independent claim 27 (emphasis added).

The Office Action asserts that the image processor 18 of Parulski corresponds to the claimed "access information associating device," (see Office Action, pages 5-6). This assertion is respectfully traversed.

Parulski merely discloses an image processor 18 that processes a selected image, using the fixed and the variable parameters that are stored in parameter memory 22, and transmits the processed image to the printer by means of interfaces (see Parulski, col. 4, lines 13-18). The image processor 18 of Parulski thus only processes printer parameters (see Parulski, Abstract and col. 4, lines 2-10). The image processor 18 of Parulski does not associate access information indicating an acquisition site of the image processing data with the image data received by an image receiving device, as recited in the independent claims. Parulski does not reach or suggest this feature. Thus, as agreed during the personal interview, Parulski does not disclose the claimed access information associating device or the claimed method of storing and associating access information.

Thus, as agreed during the personal interview and for at least the reasons discussed above, independent claims 1, 2, 27 and 28 are patentable over Parulski. Further, claims 3-26, which depend from independent claim 2, are also patentable over Parulski for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 2, as well as for additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

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V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff

Registration No. 27,075

Randi B. Isaacs

Registration No. 56,046

JAO:PQW/mrh

Date: December 17, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 320850 Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850

Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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